



## THE SPANISH SETTLEMENT.

EXCITEMENT IN CUBA.  
RESIGNATION OF CAPTAIN-GENERAL JOVELLAR—REPORTED RESIGNATION OF THE COLONIAL MINISTER—THE VOLUNTEERS DETERMINED NOT TO YIELD.

The news from Havana this morning is not so encouraging as that of the previous two or three days. On the receipt of a telegram from Madrid, conveying the terms upon which the Virginians were to be delivered to the United States in the port of Havana, there appears to have been much excitement in that city. Captain-General Jovellar, under the influence of this state of public opinion, telegraphed to Madrid that he was unable to carry out the instructions for the immediate delivery of the vessel, and requested the Government to appoint his successor. It is reported that the Captain-General twice tendered his resignation, but that no answer has been received. It is also said that Señor Soler, the Colonial Minister, who is at present at Havana, has also offered to resign. There was a meeting of leading merchants of Havana, where it was resolved to purchase vessels to act as cruisers against our commerce in case of war. The volunteers are determined not to yield to the authorities, and these are determined to resign rather than order the release of the Virginians directly to the United States.

RESIGNATION OF JOVELLAR.  
HE STATES THAT THE CONDITION OF PUBLIC OPINION PREVENTS HIM FROM EXECUTING HIS ORDERS—HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION IN THE ISLAND—REPORTED RESIGNATION OF THE COLONIAL MINISTER.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]  
HAVANA, Dec. 4.—Capt. Gen. Jovellar telegraphed to the Madrid Government to-night a dispatch to the following effect:

The Madrid Government peremptorily orders the Captain-General to deliver up the Virginians. Gen. Jovellar respectfully resigns his position, and demands that another person be sent to take his place who can carry out the orders of the Government, considering the exalted state of public opinion and the impossibility of overcoming the difficulties. Gen. Jovellar submits that a manifest was prepared for delay, during which opportunity would be given for reflection and time gained to ally the fiery patriotic spirit of the great national party in Cuba. But the strong orders from Madrid, immediately to be executed, deprive him of this resource through which he hoped to save the upholding of the authority and interests of the country. In order that the Madrid Government may comprehend the difficulties of the situation and do justice to the arduous and persevering with which he began his labors, which had already begun to produce fruit, the Captain-General describes the situation in the island. He declares that the impression produced by the news of the arrangement which has been completed between Spain and the United States by the Treaty of Bayonne, which led to the war of independence against Napoleon. He begs to assure the Government that the immediate delivery of the Virginians will instantaneously cause a frightful commotion throughout the island, which would be sure to result in successive catastrophes, even if a man of the highest ability should be in command here.

The above dispatch was forwarded early in the evening. The public feeling is intensely excited, but the greatest order prevails, owing to the confidence which Gen. Jovellar inspires.

Evening.—The *Voz de Cuba* says the leading merchants of Havana held a meeting this morning to provide for the purchase and armament of a number of fast steamers to act as cruisers in case of war with the United States. The same paper says Col. Jimenez of the First Battalion of Volunteers, has offered to arm six sea-going steamers out of his own means, and the merchants of Cienfuegos have offered the purchase of two fine steamers abroad for war service; and later information increases the number ordered. It is reported that several new battalions of volunteers will be organized immediately, and the Catholic Society proposes to organize a Sanitary battalion.

The *Voz* declares that Señor Soler, the Colonial Minister, has forwarded his resignation to Madrid; that Captain-General Jovellar telegraphed his resignation twice; that the Political Governor also handed in his resignation; and that until to-night no answer to Señor Soler's telegram was received.

The authorities have sent by cable to Madrid long extracts from the manifesto they had drawn up in the Virginian case.

TERMS UPON WHICH THE SPANIARDS ARE DISPOSED TO PERMIT A RELEASE OF THE VIRGINIANS.

HAVANA, Dec. 4.—Night.—The city continues to be quiet.—The aspect of the Virginian question is unchanged.

Many influential Spaniards, in conversation to-night, express the opinion that further difficulties can be avoided provided the conditions of the surrender of the Virginians be changed. They are not unwilling to see her delivered into the hands of neutral power, and the question of her right to bear the American flag decided by arbitration.

The majority of the people are determined not to permit the surrender of the Virginians directly to the Americans, and if this is insisted on there will be a serious conflict. Calm people express the hope that the United States will waive the question of direct delivery. The authorities are willing to obey the mandates of Castelar, but the Spaniards will not consent to a direct surrender to the Americans. If Castelar and the Government of the United States insist, the authorities will be compelled to abdicate.

The situation is extremely complicated, and nobody can foretell the result.

There is no naval vessel of the United States in port. One British man-of-war is here.

Everything hinges on the manner in which the Virginians are to be delivered. The authorities cannot count on the support of the people in carrying out the surrender.

A number of Englishmen have arrived in Havana to look after their commercial interests in peril.

It seems that President Castelar inquired by telegraph as to the state of popular feeling in Cuba on the settlement of the Virginian affair. The Captain-General replied that the people were unanimously opposed to the steamer's surrender. But before the answer could be received at Madrid Castelar telegraphed the terms of the delivery in the port of Havana. This caused the greatest surprise among the Spaniards, who expected that a contrary course would be taken.

THE GOVERNMENT OF CASTELAR DENOUNCED.

THE VOLUNTEERS DETERMINED NOT TO YIELD—VIOLENT LANGUAGE OF THE PRESS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 4.—Latest private advices from Havana represent the war fever as abating slowly. The Castelar Government is denounced by its hitherto warm supporters for what is called servility to the United States. The volunteers proclaim the determination under no circumstances to yield to the Executive, accusing it of having been bought by America gold. *La Constancia* says in a leader that the time has at last arrived for true Spaniards to be ready for the fight, and that they will conquer or die; that none but rebels and traitors will sell their honor and the right to this land for strangers' gold; that the Minister for the Colonies, Soler, has ordered the release of embargoed property of American citizens, but that true Spaniards will refuse obedience to a Home Government that is so debased and corrupted as to yield to the exigencies of the American Government.

*La Constancia* counsels the Captain-General to have

everything ready for defense by land and sea. Every man between 14 and 40 years must be enrolled to take arms, and all traitors and laborers must be expelled from the island. The article concludes with many quixotic statements, and challenges the American people to fight.

PUBLIC FEELING IN HAVANA.

AWAITING THE ASSEMBLING OF CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—THE MILITARY ACTIVE—DRILLING SOLDIERS AND MOUNTING GUNS—BUREAU MADE A FIELD MARSHAL—A STRICT CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAMS—MORE PAPER MONEY TO BE ISSUED—EXCITEMENT CREATED BY REPORTS OF A FRIENDLY SETTLEMENT.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]  
HAVANA, Nov. 29.—The situation in this city is still unchanged, as the people are awaiting the assembling of Congress and the President's message. Much speculation is indulged in as to the course which President Grant will probably recommend, and the consideration which Congress will give to his views in the matter of the seizure of the Virginians. Should these recommendations be hostile to the interests of the Spanish party in Cuba, it may cause more trouble to the American residents on the island, and especially to those in Havana. While the better class of the Spanish politicians here have seen the evil effect of these gross attacks upon people and property in peaceful sections of the island, and would often repress them if they had the power, yet when the Volunteers are seized with a sudden frenzy, they throw off the control of their leaders and commit excesses which disgrace the record of the Spanish Government. These attacks are not always premeditated. Some incident of a particularly obnoxious partisan or political character arouses immediately a popular agitation, which is soon communicated from one end of the city to the other. Groups collect, declamation of an incendiary character follows, larger numbers are attracted, and soon the Volunteers have possession of the city. When this is the case the more peaceful residents retire within their houses, which are like small fortifications, and, whether Spanish, Cuban, or American, do not venture out until the excitement has subsided. Now while the Americans are not made the subjects of violent or even threatening demonstrations at the present time, yet there is a strong undercurrent of feeling against them, and it would require very little provocation to intensify the feeling to one of excited and deadly animosity among those who, in matters of vengeance, are accustomed to act first and think afterward. There is a great desire on the part of the officials, however, to prevent any unhealthy excitement, as it impairs the usefulness of their forces and destroys for the time being their own authority.

ACTIVE PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

Pending the deliberations of the Virginian complications, however, the military authorities are pushing their work of defense as rapidly as possible. There is great activity in the Navy-Yard and arsenals, and the heavier guns heretofore unused are being moved to points where it is thought they will be most needed. On the streets there is a great showing of regulars and volunteers, and in the evening the squares in the vicinity of the Casino are peopled with squads of men going through military evolutions. They are in every stage of training, ranging from the raw recruit, who is just learning the "goose-step," to the finished soldier, who is ready to take his place at the front.

The Minister of Ultramar, or, as he is termed in English, the Minister of Colonial Affairs, is still being entertained, and continues to study the Cuban question, under the tutelage of the principal members of the Casino. His release of the embargoed estates of American and other foreign citizens has not been well received by the Conservative party, who have been enjoying the revenues therefrom; and at the senate which was tendered to him at the Casino, significant remarks of disapprobation were made by the volunteers who were serenading him, in their conversation with each other. Whether the Government will be able to enforce this decree respecting the embargoed estates is still a matter of doubt. There is a large number of persons who have been working the estates and deriving handsome incomes from them. They will not relinquish them without a struggle, and, as many of them are members of the Casino with influential connections, they may possibly succeed in preventing the restoration of the estates to their rightful owners.

BUREAU MADE A FIELD MARSHAL.

Affairs at Santiago are reported to be still unchanged. The British and American war vessels Woodlark and Wyoming are cruising in the vicinity of the harbor, and have by their presence increased considerably the comfort of the foreign residents at that place. Gen. Burriel has been made Field Marshal, and it is understood that he will probably return to Spain within a few days. There have been rumors that he was going home in disgrace, to be tried by a court of inquiry for the execution of the Virginians prisoners, but his promotion would not seem to indicate any such condition of affairs. The rumors unfavorable to him grow out of the fact that he has been serenaded and feasted on his way from Santiago to Havana, but that here he has had no public reception, although he has been in the city some days. It is further said that he is not in favor with the Minister of Ultramar, who has publicly manifested his coldness toward him.

Wall-st. was never more prolific of stock-jobbing rumors than Havana is of rumors of startling political events. No one is safe from them, from the rulers of nations down to the humblest members of society. Within the past few days we have had reports of the assassination of President Castelar, and of the dragging of Minister Siskies through the streets of Madrid. Again, it is rumored that the Spanish artillery force in Spain has revolted against the Republic and declared in favor of Don Carlos. Yesterday it was reported that the American fleet were about to enter the harbor of Havana, though for what purpose the rumor-mongers did not state. These reports, although more than 19 times out of 20 proved groundless, create a disturbed feeling and an endless amount of work for the American correspondents, who run them down only to find that there is nothing in them.

A great question which is agitating the island is that of the abolition of slavery. The aristocracy have fought this reform bitterly whenever presented, but despite all their efforts it has made great headway, and before long, it is hoped, will be an accomplished fact. Those who derive their wealth from negro labor have now so far descended from their position as to ask for an extension of the system of servitude for an additional term of 15 years, instead of opposing any modification in the condition of the slave as formerly. Should this be granted it will probably be on condition that the owners shall pay to the Government \$100 for each slave; in default thereof the slave to be declared free. While on this subject it may not be amiss to notice the progress of this idea as exemplified here in the establishment of a newspaper devoted to the abolition of slavery.

RIGID CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAMS.

The most extraordinary censorship prevails respecting the telegrams which are sent over the cable or land wires which touch at or are in Cuba. The officers of the telegraph companies are in the Captain-General's palace, and every message which does not appear perfectly clear is held back for explanation. The manager and operators are Cubans, but the censor is a Spaniard. When a message relating to the condition of affairs on the island is presented, it is almost invariably rejected. If in English and taken into consideration at all, it is translated and submitted to the Captain-General himself, who decides whether it is to the interest of his Government to allow it to be sent. He generally decides that it

is not, and the message is either returned to the sender or destroyed. This may explain to such of THE TRIBUNE'S readers, as many have had occasion to use the wires to Cuba, why some of their telegrams were never heard of after being sent. Usually the censor of the telegraph office has allowed extracts from the Havana papers to be transmitted over the wire on the ground that as the newspaper article had been supervised by the Censor of the Press, it was, of course, a proper thing to send. But yesterday the manager of the cable declined to send a newspaper extract. When remonstrated with he said he could not help it, alleging that its transmission to the United States would only engender further ill feeling which it was desirable to avoid. The finances of the island are in a very bad way. Notwithstanding the enormous amount of paper money which is in existence, it is proposed to issue \$100,000 more for the purpose of paying the claims of the soldiers, citizens, and foreign supply agents who have furnished the materials of war. Five million dollars will be issued immediately, and, as it has no basis whatever, the effect upon the already depreciated currency of the island may be imagined. The merchants pay a premium of 65 per cent for gold and 65 per cent for legal tenders.

EXCITEMENT OVER THE REMOVAL OF SETTLEMENT.

At the last moment of my writing, further rumors having a greater appearance of truth than those usually set afloat, are made public. It is alleged that the officers of the island have received a telegram of 1,000 words in cypher from the Home Government ordering them to prepare the public mind for the delivery of the Virginians to the United States. It was further stated that the United States had made this demand together with others requiring the American flag to be hoisted at the mainmast of the Virginians, and properly saluted as an apology for the outrage. The Spanish Government was also required to indemnify the United States for the sacrifice of the lives of American citizens. Whether this is true or not cannot be ascertained, but it is very generally believed by those who are adverse to the Spanish interest. It is stated as certain that last evening there was a council at the Palace consisting of the Captain-General, the principal officers of his staff, prominent civilians, and the leading members of the clergy. The object of the meeting is believed to have been the consideration of the orders from the Home Government. The rumors have created much excitement, and there is an avowed determination on the part of the Spanish party here not to give up the vessel or make any atonement. Indeed, the Virginians is rapidly being converted into a gun boat, and will be commanded by the second officer of the Tornado. *De Press*, commenting upon the condition of affairs at Cartagena, says that its expected capitulation will enable the Home Government to withdraw more than sufficient troops from their present situation to be used as desired elsewhere; that there will also be several iron-clad ready for colonial service, and that other Powers will do well to be careful as to their operations in Spanish affairs.

THE FIRST "BILL DAY" OF THE SESSION.

THE PROBABLE COURSE OF LEGISLATION INDICATED—TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THREE BILLS INTRODUCED, AMONG THEM BILLS TO REPEAL THE INCREASE OF SALARIES, AFFECTING THE CURRENCY, REGULATING FAIRS ON RAILROAD FREIGHTS, RESTORING THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE, RECOGNIZING CUBAN BELLEFERENCE, AND FOR VARIOUS OTHER PURPOSES—A MULTITUDE OF OLD AND NEW JOBS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The first "bill day" of the session is always an interesting occasion. The old members show, by the measures they introduce, the modifications their opinions have undergone while mingling with their constituents during the recess, and the new members, impatient to have a hand in the work of legislation and to show that they have ideas of their own, are prolific in bills that, while really somewhat crude, often contain many fresh and valuable suggestions. The flood of new bills and of old bills rejuvenated, which pour in upon the Clerk's desk from every quarter of the Hall as the States are called, often furnishes an outline sketch, faintly in parts, but instructive as a whole, from which it is possible to gain an idea of the probable course of legislation for the coming session.

Today 233 bills were introduced, beside a number of resolutions proposing to change the rules of the House. Beside the bills to repeal the increase of salaries, elsewhere spoken of, the most important class of measures was that embracing bills affecting the currency. They were surprisingly numerous, and among them were nearly all our old acquaintances of the past five or six years, and a number of new plans never broached before. The well-known three-sixty-five intro-conversion bill that has been floating about Congress for a long time was presented by Mr. Kelley. Several bills were offered to inflate the currency by putting out whatever amount of greenbacks Mr. Richardson has left of the \$4,000,000 that was called in by law. There were, however, none for a direct issue of additional legal tenders. Plans for expanding the national bank circulation abounded, some proposing absolute free banking, and others the issue of the \$25,000,000 of circulation required by the present law to be taken from the banks in certain States and given to others, which have not their quota, as additional currency, leaving the law unexecuted.

Curiously enough, there was no bill for resumption of specie payments, although one offered by Mr. Burchard, requiring the banks to retain the gold interest on their bonds as a part of their reserves, looked in that direction. A novel plan to secure some elasticity in the currency and at the same time to authorize free banking, was that introduced by J. M. Wilson of Indiana. This bill proposes to repeal all limit on the bank of the national bank circulation, all requirements for the banks to keep on hand a reserve of legal tenders, and to prohibit the paying by one bank to another, of any interest on deposits. It provides that as fast as new national bank notes are issued, the Secretary of the Treasury shall retire legal tender notes until the amount retired, added to that already retired, shall amount to \$100,000,000, and this shall constitute the legal-tender reserve. Any person, firm, or corporation, who desires to use any of this legal tender, may obtain it by depositing in the Treasury, U. S. bonds for the same amount. These bonds may be redeemed by their owner by returning the legal tenders, and paying the interest that has accrued on the bonds.

Next to the bills on finance, the most noticeable feature of the "call" was the number of measures to regulate fares on railroads by direct Government interference. These measures are the immediate results of the Grange movement, and all emanate from the West. Some of them go no further than to impose penalties for discriminating charges, while others go to the length of providing for the fixing of rates by boards of Government commissioners. Among the miscellaneous measures, was a bill to restore the franking privilege, which Mr. Leach of North Carolina had the hardihood to introduce, and one presented by Mr. Eames of Rhode Island to reduce letter postage to one cent. Mr. Cox presented the only bill offered for the recognition of Cuban belligerence. Mr. Hoar revived his old scheme for devoting the proceeds of land sales among the States to aid education. A few members labored under the delusion that political capital could be made at this late day, by presenting bills to equalize bounties. The first bill for removal of political disabilities came from Mr. Young of Georgia, and Mr. Randall of Pennsylvania made the first move to repeal the now useless "iron clad" oath—another vestige of the days of proscription.

A multitude of old and new jobs appeared, among them being all the canal schemes of last Winter, and a bill to saddle the debts of the Southern States upon the General Government. Finally, there were ten or twelve constitutional amendments, providing for the election of Senators by popular vote; for making the President's term six years, and making him ineligible to reelection for six years thereafter.

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## WASHINGTON.

## THE SALARY QUESTION.

APPOINTMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TO TAKE CHARGE OF ALL BILLS ON THE SUBJECT—AN OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED—PROBABILITY THAT THE CAUCUS BILL WILL BE ADOPTED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The members in charge of the Salaries Reduction bill changed their plan to-day for bringing it before the House. Their purpose yesterday was to present it in the morning hour and call the previous question at once, but to-day they decided to move for a special committee to take charge of all bills relating to it, with power to report at any time. Mr. Hale made the motion, and it was carried without opposition. The Committee was at once appointed by the Speaker, with the following members: Messrs. Hale of Maine, Maynard, Kasson, Scofield, Hale of New-York, Niblack, and Jewett. All the members having bills on the salary question were then given an opportunity to refer them. They came in thick and fast, and in such number that some member facetiously proposed to excuse the Committee from reading them in order that they might report this session. Mr. Butler asked if it would be in order to move a recess of five minutes, to give members time to prepare bills who had not yet got them ready. A number of burlesque bills were offered proposing to abolish all salaries and make Congressmen serve without pay. Mr. Eldridge raised a laugh by a bill allowing members to pay their salaries to their constituents in consideration for their votes.

Of the measures offered in good faith, a majority propose to fix the salary at the old rate of \$5,000, with an allowance of actual traveling expenses. Some provide for the \$5,000 only, without traveling allowance, and others fix the rate at \$6,000, in lieu of pay and all allowances. Mr. Beck introduced a bill to reduce the President's salary in an indirect way, by prohibiting all appropriations for his household. A constitutional amendment, offered by Mr. Dewitt of New-York, makes any future increase of salaries ineffective until an election for members of the House shall have taken place; and one offered by E. H. Roberts of New-York, prohibits any Congress from raising its own compensation.

The Committee will probably adopt the caucus bill, and will present it either to-morrow or Monday. It is their intention to allow a limited amount of debate before calling the previous question. The only objection will be to the proposed increase in the old salary to be compensated for money and mileage, now abolished, and in lieu of an allowance for postage. The bill will unquestionably be passed by an overwhelming majority.

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making law increasing salaries of Senators and Representatives inoperative until a new Congress shall be elected, and for a variety of other purposes.

THE NEW SENATE COMMITTEES.

PLACES BY THE REPUBLICANS WITHOUT HAVING A CHOICE OF POSITIONS—MR. SUMNER PLACED ON THE COMMITTEES ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS AND EDUCATION AND LABOR.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The only important event in the Senate to-day, aside from the speech of Mr. Ferry of Michigan, on finance, was the election of the Standing and Special Committees. Less interest has been manifested in the organization of the Senate since that time, the only interesting question was whether there would be any change of attitude in the Republican caucus toward the Liberals. It is now generally believed that a week before the meeting of Congress many Republican Senators were seriously discussing the policy of sending invitations to the Liberals to join with the Administration party in caucus, but that, on the arrival of some of the leaders of the Senate a few days later, the project was abandoned. The assignment of the Liberals by the Republicans to places upon the committees, without giving them any voice in the choice of positions, was as far as some of the Republicans would go. This assignment is made entirely without pledges, asked or given. The Liberals were simply asked whether they would prefer to receive their places at the hands of the Republicans or from the Democrats, as last year. They replied that it was a matter of little concern to them; they had nothing to ask, but would serve wherever they were placed.

An examination of the new list of committees will show the following as among the most important changes: Senator Sumner, who was, by a vote of the Senate a year ago, excused from serving upon committees on account of his ill health, is now placed sixth on the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and fourth on the Committee on Education and Labor. Mr. Schurz remains on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, assigned there now by the Republicans, while the Committee is now increased to nine, making places for two Democrats—Messrs. Stockton and McCreery—that party having had no representation on this important Committee last year. Mr. Schurz also remains on the Committee on the Levees of the Mississippi River. Mr. Fenton returns to the Committee on Finance, and has also a position on Private Land Claims and Manufactures. Mr. Tipton is assigned by the Democrats to Public Lands, and Mines and Mining. Mr. Boutwell leaves the Committee on Privileges and Elections, giving a place to Mr. Sausbury, and goes to the Committee on Commerce, in the place of Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Boutwell also goes to the Committee on Claims, in place of Mr. Dennis. Mr. Bayard leaves the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and becomes Chairman of Engraved Bills, in the place of Mr. Cassery, resigned. Mr. Stockton goes upon Manufactures, in the place of Mr. Johnston. Mr. Gordon takes Mr. McCreery's place on Agriculture. Mr. Hamilton of Maryland takes Mr. Kelley's place on Post-Offices and Post Roads. Mr. Kelley takes Mr. Cassery's place on Public Lands. Mr. Morrill of Maine goes to Indian Affairs, in the place of Mr. Sherman, and Mr. McCreery to the same Committee, in the place of Mr. Stevenson. Mr. Patterson takes Mr. Dorsey's place on Pensions.

The Committee on Claims has two Senators added to its number, and Mr. Dennis goes off. The three vacancies thus caused are filled by Messrs. Boutwell, Davis, and Goldthwaite. Mr. Sausbury leaves the Committee on the District of Columbia, and Messrs. Dorsey and Johnson go on. Mr. Morton takes a place on Education and Labor, and with Mr. Sumner, makes that a strong committee, with a weak chairman. Mr. Flanagan. The new Committee on Civil Service and Retrenchment is not a particularly strong one.

REPUBLICAN SENATORIAL CAUCUSES.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO REVISE THE STANDING COMMITTEES ADOPTED—THE REV. DR. SUNDERS NOMINATED FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Two caucuses of Republican Senators were held to-day. The morning one was to hear the report of the Committee to Revise the Standing Committees of the body. The report was adopted, and afterward agreed to in the Senate. The afternoon caucus selected a candidate for the position of Chaplain of the Senate. This office, which has been much sought after by Washington clergymen, has been held by the pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Church, the Rev. Dr. Newman. The late pastor of that Society was last Spring appointed Inspector of Consulates, and with his wife acting as clerk, started for Japan and China. The office expired on June 30, but the President has found some other mission for his late Minister and his wife, and they have continued their journey around the world.

It was generally taken for granted that Dr. Tiffany, New York's successor in the Metropolitan Church, would succeed him in the chaplaincy of the Senate, but some objections of a personal character having been raised he was defeated to-day, and the Rev. Dr. Sunderland of the First Presbyterian Church was nominated. This gentleman was once before Chaplain of the Senate, has been pastor of the American Church in Paris, and is one of the most popular preachers in Washington.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

PLAN FOR A COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION BY THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AT THE CENTENAL EXPOSITION.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1873.

Director-General Goshorn has submitted to President Grant, through the Secretary of State, a plan for a collective exhibition of the executive departments at the International Exhibition in 1876, embracing all the objects produced by the establishments, subject to their control or direction, as well as such written statements and specimens of blanks and forms as will illustrate a practical and simple manner the functions and work of each department. The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War have manifested a hearty approval of the proposal, and it is understood that the heads of the other departments are equally ready to cooperate in presenting to the visitors of all nations an insight of the actual structure and operations of the executive departments of this Republic, and in showing its expansion from the early days of its creation. The President will shortly issue an Executive order giving effect to the proposed plan. The National Academy of Design at New York is the leading art organization of the country, has adopted resolutions manifesting its interest in the Exhibition, and its desire to aid in making the Art Department one of the most interesting features. The President, Mr. Ward, has officially communicated this fact to the Centennial Commission.

THE NOMINATION OF MR. WILLIAMS TO BE CHIEF-JUSTICE REFERRED TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The nomination of George H. Williams to be Chief-Justice was to-day referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, but no further action was taken on the subject in Executive session. It is stated that the President from the beginning made up his mind not to appoint a successor to Chief-Justice Chase from the Supreme Court Bench, and that he did tender the appointment to Senator Conkling, who declined it. He then wished to appoint Caleb Cushing and retain Attorney-General Williams in the Cabinet until the expiration of the Presidential term, calculating that by that time he would have secured the re-election of Mr. Williams, and that he would appoint Mr. Williams. The proposed appointment of Mr. Cushing has been the subject of much discussion, and the President's purpose to appoint Mr. Williams. The nomination of Chief-Justice Chase was confirmed the same day it was sent to the

Senate, but in this case, considering the importance of the position, and without the slightest discourtesy to Mr. Williams, it has been thought best that the nomination shall go through all the preliminary forms, in accordance with the rules.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day:

Silas Garber, to be Register of the Land Office at Little Rock, Ark. Postmaster—John M. Moore, at Salt Lake City; E. G. Southworth, at Hudson, Mich.; Joseph E. Bauer, at Mason City, Ill.; Thomas W. Abraham, at Omaha, Neb.; also, a large number of promotions in the Navy, made during the recess of Congress, among them Joseph Beale, to be Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and William N. Jeffery, to be Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1873.

The Controller of the Currency is receiving complaints that National bank notes have, in a number of instances, been recently presented to the redeeming agency in the City of New-York, and payment refused, the agent having been changed without the approval of that office, as required by Section 32 of the National Currency act. National banks neglecting to inform the Controller of changes in redemption agents are thus liable to have their notes protested, when application to the Controller would prevent such protest.

Col. Boudinot of the Cherokee Nation and Gen. Porter of the Creek Nation are now in Washington to advocate the establishment of the Territorial Government of Oklahoma, according to the treaty stipulations of 1866. Delegations for a like purpose from the Seminoles, Chickasaws, and Chickasaws are expected to join them in a week or two.

Among the callers at the White House to-day was Representative Stephens of Georgia, who was received by the President in one of the reception rooms on the main floor. Mr. Stephens was too feeble to ascend the stairway to the President's office.

The Speaker told the House, just before it adjourned to-day, that he should be prepared to announce the Standing Committees to-morrow. A motion to adjourn until Monday was pending at the time, but was immediately withdrawn.

The House Committee on Elections will meet to-morrow and take up the contested case of Nell against Shanks of the 15th Indiana District.

[For Regular Report of Congressional Proceedings see Second Page.]

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE REPUBLIC OF SPAIN.

A NEW ENVOY TO WASHINGTON—BOMBARDMENT OF CARTAGENA CONTINUED.

MADRID, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1873.

It is reported that the Spanish Mission at Washington has been offered to Señor Figueras.

The bombardment of Cartagena by the Republican batteries continues incessantly. Four hundred houses in the city have been destroyed. At the request of Gen. Ceballos, the commander of the Government forces, the foreign fleets have withdrawn from the harbor.

Marshal Serrano has returned to this city.

THE FRENCH ASSEMBLY.

A MOTION TO CENSURE THE GOVERNMENT VOTED DOWN.

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1873